

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-10 (canceled).

11. (currently amended): A method for the manufacture of a freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent, comprising steps of;

providing a thromboplastin-containing composition having an ISI of more than 1.0; ~~and~~
adding an amino acid to the thromboplastin-containing composition so as to obtain ~~the a~~ mixture having the ISI nearer to 1.0 than the ISI of the thromboplastin--containing composition; and

freeze-drying the mixture so as to obtain the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent,

wherein the amino acid is selected from the group consisting of alanine, aminobutyric acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, sodium glutamate, methionine, proline, serine and tyrosine, and
wherein the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent does not contain adsorbed plasma.

12. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is derived from natural material selected from the group consisting of human placenta, rabbit brain and bovine brain.

13. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is prepared by means of a recombinant technology.

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein a final concentration of the amino acid is 0.01-10w/v%.

15. (currently amended): A method for the manufacture of a freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent, comprising steps of;

providing a thromboplastin-containing composition; ~~and~~
adding an amino acid to the thromboplastin-containing composition; and
freeze-drying a mixture of the amino acid and the thromboplastin-containing composition, so as to obtain the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent,

wherein the amino acid is selected from the group consisting of alanine, aminobutyric acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, sodium glutamate, methionine, proline, serine and tyrosine, and
wherein the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent does not contain adsorbed plasma.

16. (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is derived from natural material selected from the group consisting of human placenta, rabbit brain and bovine brain.

17. (previously presented): : The method of claim 15, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is prepared by means of a recombinant technology.

18. (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein a final concentration of the amino acid is 0.01-10w/v%.

19. (currently amended): A freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent comprising a thromboplastin- containing composition having an ISI more than 1.0; and

an amino acid selected from the group consisting of alanine, aminobutyric acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, sodium glutamate, methionine, proline, serine and tyrosine,

wherein a mixture of the thromboplastin-containing composition and the amino acid has the ISI nearer to 1.0 than the ISI of the thromboplastin-containing composition, and wherein the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent does not contain adsorbed plasma.

20. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 19, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is derived from natural material selected from the group consisting of human placenta, rabbit brain and bovine brain.

21. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 19, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is prepared by means of a recombinant technology.

22. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 19, wherein a final concentration of the amino acid is 0.01-10w/v%.

23. (canceled).

24. (currently amended): A freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent comprising a thromboplastin-containing composition and an amino acid selected from the group consisting of alanine, aminobutyric acid, glutamic acid, glutamine, sodium glutamate, methionine, proline, serine and tyrosine,

wherein the freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent does not contain adsorbed plasma.

25. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 24, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is derived from natural material selected from the group consisting of human placenta, rabbit brain and bovine brain.

26. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 24, wherein the thromboplastin-containing composition is prepared by means of a recombinant technology.

27. (currently amended): The freeze-dried prothrombin time measuring reagent of claim 24, wherein a final concentration of the amino acid is 0.01-10w/v%.

28. (canceled).